

From: Gerard Jeronowitz
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/26/02 12:01am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am ashamed that the U.S. Government is actually considering this settlement with Microsoft. The settlement as proposed will not accomplish the goal of alleviating Microsoft's strangle hold on the computer retailers and industry at large. Remedy by agreement has not worked with Microsoft in the past, and no-one has gone back to actually follow up with, or enforce previous settlements with the company allowing those agreements to be ignored at will.

Microsoft is a predatory monopoly that stifles any real competition by either purchasing the competition, or eliminating a market by providing a free product and bundling it with their operating system, then forcing retailers to install that software as a default.

Microsoft has repeatedly attempted to stall any legal proceedings by any means necessary, attempted to mis-lead the courts with falsified or manufactured testimony, and shows nothing but contempt for the process of law.

I do hope that the court will see through this travesty of a settlement and provide substantive, meaningful, and long term remedy. My suggestion is to break the company in to four smaller entities: Internet (MSN, Explorer, IIS), Media and Entertainment (games, XBox, Windows Media Player), Applications and Operating systems (MS Office, Windows) and lastly, Hardware (keyboards, mice, PocketPC). This mix, though likely seen as drastic by many, would minimize the ability of one company to gain advantage from the work of another and provide for an environment of open, honest competition in the spirit of Capitalism and the open market system.

Action such as this is necessary if TRUE innovation and competition is to continue in the future. Thank you for your time.

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